

Text: **Psalm 37**

Title: **The Steps of a Good Man**

THE FOCUS OF A MAN WHO PRAYS...BEING A GOOD MAN

1. Prayer that is implied in the Psalm

- a. Psalm 37 is about the steps of a good man
- b. But there is no direct mention of prayer
- c. It is implied in this Psalm
- d. A man who prays would focus on being a good man

2. Understanding the steps of a good man

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way. though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; for the Lord upholds him with His hand.” Psalm 37:23

a. The good man is identified in the following ways

- i. The righteous (Psalm 37:16)
- ii. The upright (Psalm 37:18)
- iii. The blameless (Psalm 37:37)

b. Determined by the Lord Himself

- i. According to the law of God

*“The law of his God is in his heart, none of his steps shall slide.”
Psalm 37:31*

- ii. According to His ways

“Wait on the Lord and keep His ways.” Psalm 37:34

- iii. According to His delight

“He delights in his way.” Psalm 37:23

IN FACING A WORLD THAT IS EVIL

1. Not to fret over those who seem to prosper (Psalm 37:1, 7, 8)
2. Not to be envious of those who does all kinds of iniquities (Psalm 37:1)
 - a. Plan wicked plots (Psalm 37:12)
 - b. Cast down poor and needy (Psalm 37:14)
 - c. Slay those who are upright (Psalm 37:14)
 - d. They borrow and not repay (Psalm 37:21)

THE FEATURES OF A GOOD MAN

1. Trust in the Lord (Psalm 37:3)
2. Do good (Psalm 37:3, 27)
3. Feed on His faithfulness (Psalm 37:3)
4. Delight in the Lord (Psalm 37:4)
5. Commit your way to the Lord (Psalm 37:5)
6. Rest in the Lord (Psalm 37:7)
7. Wait patiently for Him (Psalm 37:7, 34)
8. Cease from anger (Psalm 37:8)
9. Being meek (Psalm 37:11)
10. Speak wisdom (Psalm 37:30)

PROMISSORY ANSWERS FROM GOD FOR A GOOD MAN WHO PRAYS

1. The promised answers of the Lord's blessings
 - a. He will give us the desires of our heart (Psalm 37:4)
 - b. He will bring to pass that which is good (Psalm 37:5)
 - c. He will cause us to inherit the earth (Psalm 37:9, 11, 29, 34)
 - d. He will give us abundance of peace (Psalm 37:11, 37)
 - e. The Lord will uphold the righteous (Psalm 37:17,23)

- f. He will not forsake us (Psalm 37:25, 28)
- g. He will bless our descendants (Psalm 37:25, 26)
- h. He will preserve (Psalm 37:28)
- i. He will give salvation (Psalm 37:39)
- j. He will give strength (Psalm 37:39)

2. In contrast, the wicked will be dealt with by the Lord

- a. They will come to an end (Psalm 37:2, 9, 10, 36)
- b. Their day of end will come (Psalm 37:13)
- c. Their sword will enter their own heart (Psalm 37:14, 15)
- d. Their arms will be broken (Psalm 37:17)
- e. The wicked will perish (Psalm 37:20, 38)

FOLLOW THE WAYS OF A GOOD MAN

1. Match our prayer life with being a good man
2. Courage to walk as a good man in an evil world
3. Faith to live out the features of a good man
4. Joy in seeing God answer our prayers